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RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia - Commercial red meat production during December 2014 totaled 700,000 pounds. This was down 7 percent from December 2013. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 930,000 pounds live weight, down 12 percent from December 2013. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,000 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 32 pounds from the previous year, at 965 pounds.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 155,000 pounds live weight, up 19 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 15 pounds from the previous year, at 279 pounds.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States - Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.14 billion pounds in December, up slightly from the 4.14 billion pounds produced in December 2013.

Beef production, at 2.00 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter

totaled 2.44 million head, down 5 percent from December 2013. The average live weight was up 29 pounds from the previous year, at 1,363 pounds.

Veal production totaled 7.6 million pounds, 22 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 43,000 head, down 35 percent from December 2013. The average live weight was up 51 pounds from last year, at 302 pounds.

Pork production, a record high for December, totaled 2.11 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.85 million head, up 1 percent from December 2013. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 286 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.4 million pounds, was up 3 percent from December 2013. Sheep slaughter totaled 200,000 head, slightly above last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, up 3 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2014 commercial red meat production was 47.3 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2013. Accumulated beef production was down 6 percent from last year, veal was down 16 percent, pork was down 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down slightly.

December 2013 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays. December 2014 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.

CATTLE ON FEED

United States - Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.7 million head on January 1, 2015. The inventory was 1 percent above January 1, 2014. The inventory included 6.94 million steers and steer calves, up 2 percent from the previous

year. This group accounted for 65 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.67 million head, down 2 percent from 2014.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.54 million, 8 percent below 2013. Net placements were 1.47 million head. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 435,000, 600-699 pounds were 375,000, 700-799 pounds were 339,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 395,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.66 million, 5 percent below 2013.

Other disappearance totaled 72,000 during December, 6 percent below 2013.

FOURTH QUARTER MILK PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia - Milk production in West Virginia totaled 34 million pounds or 4.0 million gallons during the October - December quarter of 2014. This was unchanged from the same period in 2013 and also unchanged from the July - September 2014 quarter. The number of dairy cows averaged 9,000 head, unchanged from the same period in 2013 and the previous quarter.

United States - Milk production in the United States during the October - December quarter totaled 50.9 billion pounds, up 3.4 percent from the October - December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.28 million head, 16,000 head more than the July - September quarter, and 83,000 head more than the same period last year.

Note: A conversion of 8.6 pounds per gallon was used.

PRELIMINARY FRUIT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia - Total apple production for 2014 was 82.0 million pounds, down 14 percent, or 13 million pounds from 2013. Utilized production totaled 82.0 million pounds, a decrease of 13 million pounds from 2013. Bearing acres in the State were estimated at 4,100 acres in 2014, 200 acres down from 2013 with an average yield per acre of 20,000 pounds, 2,100 pounds less than in 2013. The average price per pound for apples was 15.2 cents, up 1.5 cents from 2013.

Value of utilized production totaled 12.4 million dollars for the crop, down 4 percent or 560,000 dollars from the 2013 value.

Peach production totaled 5,360 tons (10.7 million pounds), down 340 tons (680,000 pounds) from 2013. Utilized production in 2014 totaled 5,250 tons (10.5 million pounds), down 4 percent or 210 tons (420,000 pounds) from last year. Bearing acres were estimated at 950 acres, unchanged from 2013, with an average yield of 5.64 tons (11,280 pounds) per acre, down 0.36 ton (720 pounds) from 2013. The price received per ton was estimated at 1,030 dollars, an increase of 130 dollars per ton from 2013. Value of utilized production totaled 5.4 million dollars, a 10 percent increase or 494,000 dollars above the 2013 total.

United States - Total apple production in the U.S. during 2014 was estimated at 11.3 billion pounds, 8 percent more than 2013. Of the total production, 11.2 billion pounds were utilized, up 9 percent from the 2013 level. Bearing acres were estimated at 327,380 acres, down 1,240 acres from 2013, with an average yield per acre of 34,400 pounds, 2,800 pounds more than 2013. Growers received an average of 26.5 cents per pound, a decrease of 3.7 cents from 2013. Value of utilized production totaled 2.96 billion dollars, a decrease of 5 percent from 3.11 billion dollars in 2013.

The U.S. total **peach production** (including California Clingstone) in 2014 was estimated at 846,615 tons, down 6 percent from 903,871 tons in 2013. Of this production, 830,990 tons were utilized, down 6 percent from the previous year. Bearing acres were estimated at 102,750 acres, down 3,140 acres from 2013, with an average yield of 8.24 tons per acre, a decrease of 0.3 ton from the 2013 yield of 8.54 tons per acre. The average price received per ton for peaches was 742 dollars, up 125 dollars per a ton from the 2013 price. Value of utilized production totaled 616.5 million dollars, up 12 percent or 68.5 million dollars from the 2013 total of 548.0 million dollars.

ANNUAL CROP PRODUCTION 'December Ag Survey Results'

Charleston, West Virginia - Winter wheat planted acres totaled 10,000 in 2014, up 1,000 acres from 2013. Area harvested for grain totaled 7,000 acres, unchanged from 2013. The average yield for 2014 was estimated to be 64.0 bushels per acre. This was

up 12 bushels per acre from 2013. Production was estimated at 448,000 bushels, up 23 percent or 84,000 bushels from 2013. **Winter wheat seedings** for the 2015 crop are estimated at 7,000 acres, down 30 percent or 3,000 acres from 2014.

All hay area harvested in 2014 totaled 618,000 acres, up 28,000 acres from 2013. The average yield in 2014 was 1.83 tons per acre, down 0.14 ton per acre from 2013. Production totaled 1,132,000 tons, down 33,000 tons from 2013. **December On Farm Hay Stocks** were 910,000 tons, up 40,000 tons from the total of 870,000 tons in 2013.

Alfalfa hay area harvested totaled 18,000 acres in 2014, down 2,000 acres from 2013. Yields in 2014 averaged 2.9 tons per acre, down 1.2 tons from 2013. Production totaled 52,000 tons, down 30,000 tons from 2013. New seedings of alfalfa in 2014 are estimated at 1,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from 2013.

All other hay area harvested totaled 600,000 acres in 2014, up 30,000 acres from 2013. Yields averaged 1.8 tons per acre, down 0.1 ton per acre from 2013. Production totaled 1,080,000 tons, down 3,000 tons from 2013.

Corn area planted for all purposes in 2014 totaled

51,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from 2013. Harvested area **for grain** totaled 36,000 acres, unchanged from 2013. The average yield of 149.0 bushels per acre was up 2.0 bushels per acre from 2013. Production was 5,364,000 bushels, up 1 percent or 72,000 bushels from 2013.

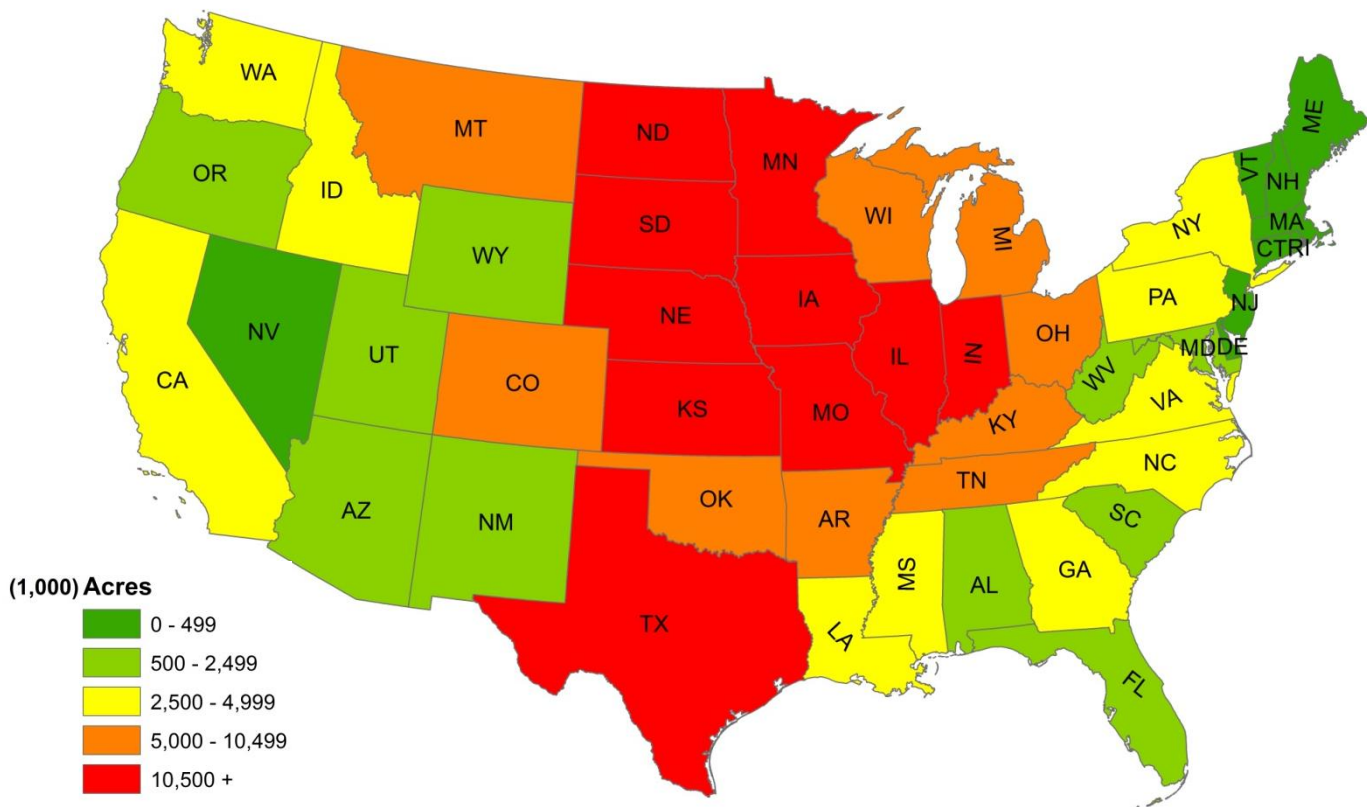
Corn for silage area harvested was 14,000 acres in 2014, down 2,000 acres from 2013. Yields averaged 18.0 tons per acre which was 1.0 ton per acre below the 2013 yield. Silage production was estimated at 252,000 tons, down 17 percent or 52,000 tons from 2013.

Soybeans area planted totaled 27,000 acres, up 4,000 acres from 2013. Area harvested for soybeans totaled 26,000 acres, up 4,000 acres from 2013. The yield for soybeans in 2014 averaged 51.0 bushels per acre, up 4.5 bushels per acre from 2013. Production was estimated at 1,326,000 bushels, up 30 percent or 303,000 bushels from 2013.

The total area planted to **principal crops** in West Virginia totaled 706,000 acres in 2014, up 31,000 acres from 2013. Area harvested totaled 701,000 acres, up 30,000 acres from 2013. Principal crops include acres planted to corn, soybeans, wheat, and acres harvested for hay.

Principal Crops Area Harvested, 2014

Crops included are corn, sorghum, oats, barley, rye, winter wheat, Durum wheat, other spring wheat, rice, soybeans, peanuts, sunflower, cotton, dry edible beans, potatoes, canola, proso millet, and sugarbeets.



UNITED STATES WITH PREVIOUS YEAR COMPARISONS

- All wheat production - 2.03 billion bushels, down 5%.
- Winter wheat production - 1.38 billion bushels, down 11%.
- 2015 winter wheat seedings - 40.5 million acres, down 5% from 2014.
- 2014 alfalfa seedings - 2.55 million acres, up 1% from 2013.
- Alfalfa hay production - 61.4 million tons, up 7%.
- All other hay production - 78.4 million tons, up less than 1%.
- All hay production - 139.8 million tons, up 4%.
- Corn planted for all purposes area - 90.6 million acres, down 5%.
- Corn for grain area harvested - 83.1 million acres, down less than 5%.
- Corn for grain production - 14.2 billion bushels, up 3%.
- Corn for grain yield - 171.0 bushels per acre, up 12.9 bushels per acre.
- Corn for silage harvested area - 6.37 million acres, up 1%.
- Corn for silage production - 128.0 million tons, up 8%.
- Corn for silage yield - 20.1 tons per acre, up 1.3 tons per acre.
- Soybean production - 3.97 billion bushels, up 18%.
- Soybean yield - 47.8 bushels per acre, up 3.8 bushels per acre.

- All tobacco production - 876.4 million pounds, up 21%.
- Oats production - 69.7 million bushels, up 8%.
- Area planted to principal crops - 326.8 million acres, up less than 1%.
- Area harvested for principal crops - 309.0 million acres, up 2%.

U.S. STOCKS TOTALS AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2014

- Hay stocks on-farms - 92.1 million tons, up 3%.
- Corn stocks on-farms - 7.09 billion bushels, up 11%.
- Corn stocks off-farms - 4.12 billion bushels, up 1%.
- All wheat stocks on-farms - 472.6 million bushels, up 19%.
- All wheat stocks off-farms - 1.05 billion bushels, down 2%.
- Soybean stocks on-farms - 1.22 billion bushels, up 28%.
- Soybean stocks off-farms - 1.31 billion bushels, up 9%.
- Oats stocks on-farms - 31.3 million bushels, up 22%.
- Oats stocks off-farms - 30.9 million bushels, up 38%.

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January Cattle Inventory
January Sheep & Goat Inventories
Crop Values

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